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WASHINGTON

ALEXANDER
HAMILTON

THOMAS
JEFFERSON

I am an American

JAMES
MONROE

DANIEL
WEBSTER

ABRAHAM
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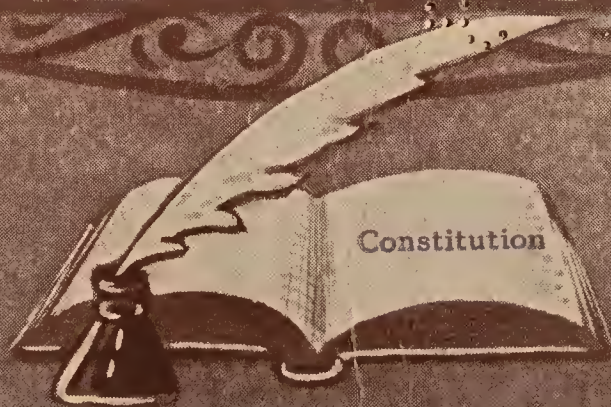


The American's Creed

I am an American, attached to the principles of the Constitution of the United States, establishing a free and independent nation with a government of the people, by the people, for the people, whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a republic; a sovereign nation of a sovereign people; a perfect union of many states; one and inseparable, founded upon the eternal principles of liberty, equality, justice and humanity.

I am therefore a lover of my country, and I dedicate myself to its service; to support its Constitution; to obey its laws; to respect its flag, and to defend it against all enemies.

God Save the United States.



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PREPARED AND ARRANGED BY
WM. W. MORROW
JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES
CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS

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Compiler
3.24.19*



The Sources of the Fourteen Points of the American's Creed

I. "I am an American".

1. "AMERICAN": "A native or legally constituted citizen of the United States."—Standard Dictionary.

2. "All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside."—Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

3. "CITIZENS BY BIRTH OR CHOICE OF A COMMON COUNTRY, THAT COUNTRY HAS A RIGHT TO CONCENTRATE YOUR AFFECTIONS. The name of AMERICAN, which belongs to you in your national capacity, must always exalt the just pride of patriotism more than any appellation derived from local discriminations."—From Washington's Farewell Address, September 17, 1796 (Richardson's "Messages and Papers of the Presidents," Vol. 1, page 215).

4. "When honored and decrepit age shall lean against the base of this monument, and troops of ingenuous youth shall be gathered round it, and when the one shall speak to the other of its objects, the purposes of its construction, and the great and glorious events with which it is connected, there shall rise from every youthful breast, the ejaculation, 'Thank God, I—I also—AM AN AMERICAN!' "—From Daniel Webster's address on the completion of the Bunker Hill Monument, June 17, 1843.

II. "Attached to the principles of the Constitution of the United States".

1. At the opening of the second session of the Third Congress on November 18, 1794, President Washington in his address to Congress spoke of the

"NEED OF AFFECTIONATE VIGILANCE OVER THE PRECIOUS DEPOSITARY OF AMERICAN HAPPINESS, THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES" (Ann. of Congress, 3d. Congress, page 790).

2. In that session of Congress, a bill was introduced for the naturalization of aliens. After various amendments had been proposed relating to the attachment to the government of the United States, which the applicant was required to prove to the satisfaction of the court to entitle him to be admitted as a citizen of the United States, the subject was referred to a committee of which James Madison was chairman, who reported a new bill. The bill was debated and passed January 29, 1795 (Ann. of Congress, 3d. Congress, 1793 to 1795,

pages 1064-1066; 1 Stat. 414). The third subdivision of Section 1 of the Act provides as follows:

“Thirdly. The Court admitting such alien shall be satisfied that he has resided within the limits and under the jurisdiction of the United States five years; and it shall further appear to their satisfaction, that during that time, he has behaved as a man of good moral character, ATTACHED TO THE PRINCIPLES OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES, AND WELL DISPOSED TO THE GOOD ORDER AND HAPPINESS OF THE SAME.”

The last clause of the provision has not been changed since, but has been preserved as the test of loyalty through all the amendments and revisions of the naturalization laws down to the present time, and is now found in identical language in the first clause of the fourth paragraph of Section 4 of the Act of June 29, 1906 (34 Stat., part 1, pages 596, 598).

It is estimated that 35,000,000 aliens have been admitted to citizenship under this statute.

The presumption is that citizens by birth are equally ATTACHED TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES AND WELL DISPOSED TO THE GOOD ORDER AND HAPPINESS OF THE SAME.

III. “Establishing a free and independent nation”.

1. The Declaration of Independence declared “That the United Colonies are and of right ought to be FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES.”

2. The Constitution of the United States organized the people of the United States into “A FREE AND INDEPENDENT NATION.”

Chisholm v. Georgia, 2 Dall. 419, 463, 464, 465, 470, 471 (1793); McCullough v. Maryland, 4 Wheat. 315, 405 (1819); Cohens v. Virginia, 6 Wheat. 264, 413 (1821); Gibbons v. Ogden, 9 Wheat. 1, 185 (1824); Osborn v. United States Bank, 9 Wheat. 738, 858 (1824); Fong Yue Ting v. United States, 149 U. S. 698, 711 (1893); In re Debs, 158 U. S. 564, 582 (1894).

3. “Peace, commerce, and honest friendship with all nations, entangling alliances with none.”—Thomas Jefferson, First Inaugural Address, delivered March 4, 1801 (Richardson’s “Messages and Papers of the Presidents,” Vol. I, page 323).

4. The Monroe Doctrine.

First: “The American continents by the FREE AND INDEPENDENT CONDITION which they have assumed and maintained are henceforth not to be considered as subjects for future colonization by any European powers.”

Second: “We should consider any attempts on their part to extend their system to any portion of this hemisphere as dangerous to our peace and safety.”

—From the message of President Monroe dated December 2, 1823 (“Messages and Papers of the Presidents,” Vol. II, pages 209, 281).

IV. “With ‘a government of the people, by the people, for the people’ ”.

From Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address, November 19, 1863.

V. "Whose 'just powers are derived from the consent of the governed'".

From the Declaration of Independence (Thomas Jefferson).

VI. "A democracy in a republic".

"A Republican government is a government by representatives chosen by the people."—Cooley's Principles of Constitutional Law, page 213.

VII. "A sovereign nation of a sovereign people".

1. WE THE PEOPLE of the United States * * * do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."—From the preamble to the Constitution of the United States.

"Here we see the people acting as sovereigns of the whole country * * * In Europe the sovereignty is generally ascribed to the prince; here it rests with the people". Chisholm v. Georgia, 2 Dallas 471.

2. THIS CONSTITUTION, and the Laws of the United States which shall be made in Pursuance thereof; and all Treaties made, or which shall be made, under the Authority of the United States, SHALL BE THE SUPREME LAW OF THE LAND; and the Judges in every State shall be bound thereby, any Thing in the Constitution or Laws of any State to the Contrary notwithstanding."—Article VI, Clause 2, of the Constitution.

VIII. "A perfect union of many states".

From the Preamble to the Constitution of the United States.

"WE THE PEOPLE of the United States in order to form a more perfect Union * * * do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."

IX. "One and inseparable".

1. Webster's reply to Hayne in the Senate, January 26, 1830.

2. "The Constitution in all its provisions looks to an indestructible union composed of indestructible states". Texas v. White, 7 Wall. 700-725.

X. "Founded upon the eternal principles of liberty, equality, justice and humanity."

1. "WE THE PEOPLE of the United States in order * * * to establish Justice * * * and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."—From the Preamble to the Constitution of the United States.

2. Neither the United States nor any State "shall deprive any person OF LIFE, LIBERTY, OR PROPERTY without due process of law."—From the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States.

3. "No state shall * * * deny to any person * * * the EQUAL protection of the laws."—From the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

4. "There is but one law for all, namely, the law which governs all law, the law of our Creator, the law of humanity, justice, equality—the law of nature and of nations."—Edmund Burke's speech on the impeachment of Warren Hastings (Burke's Works, Vol. II, page 525).

XI. "I am therefore a lover of my country".

"If we lose that love of country which transcends all else and makes us willing to die to preserve our country, then shall we lose the capacity and the desire to aid in protecting the liberties of others."—Address of Charles E. Hughes at the Union League Club, New York, March 26, 1919.

XII. "And I dedicate myself to its service".

Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, November 19, 1863.

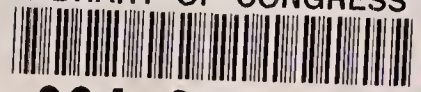
XIII. "To support its Constitution; to obey its laws; to respect its flag, and to defend it against all enemies."

Oath of Allegiance (34 Stat., part 1, pp. 596, 597, 598).

XIV. "God Save the United States."

From the proclamation of the Crier made when the Chief Justice and the Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States take their places on the bench at each daily session of the Court.

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